

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 /085 W
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R 121355Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6510

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 16242

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, UK, MZ

SUBJECT: FOREIGN AID TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 1061

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH HEAD OF EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN DEPARTMENT AND ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY ASPIN AT FCO, EMBOFFS INQUIRED WHETHER UK PLANNING PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE. FCO OFFICIALS WENT THROUGH USUAL ROUTINE OF MENTIONING UK'S STRAINED FINANCIAL POSITION, FACT THAT MOZAMBIQUE NOT YET INDEPENDENT AND POLICY OF LOOKING TO FORMER METROPOLE TO BE PRIMARY SOURCES OF AID TO THEIR EX-COLONIES. THEY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AT SOME TIME IN FUTURE THEY EXPECT MOZAMBIQUE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE SOME ACTION ON SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA AND AT TIME BRITISH ANTICIPATE AID REQUEST AS QUID PRO QUO.

2. WHILE ON SUBJECT OF SANCTIONS WITH ASSISTANT UNDER
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SECRETARY ASPIN, EMBOFF ASKED WHETHER BRITISH HAD YET

REQUESTED MOZAMBIQUE AUTHORITIES TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS AND WHETHER RHODESIAN CONSULATE IN MOZAMBIQUE STILL BUSY WORKING AT FALSIFYING SHIPPING DOCUMENTS TO COVER RHODESIAN EXPORTS. ASPIN REPLIED THAT BRITISH HAVE NOT RAISED SUBJECT IN LOURENCO MARQUES, BUT HAD ASKED PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES WHAT HIS INTENTIONS WERE CONCERNING SANCTIONS. SOARES REPLY WAS NOT VERY PRECISE, AND HE MADE NO PROMISES. AS FAR AS ASPIN AWARE, DOCUMENT CENTER STILL BUSY WORKING IN LOURENCO MARQUES.

3. EMBOFF ALSO MENTIONED RECENT REPORTS FROM CONSULATE GENERAL LOURENCO MARQUES (REFTEL) CONCERNING VISITS BY DUTCH, BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN AND OTHER POTENTIAL AID DONORS, AND ASKED WHAT BRITISH MIGHT FEEL ABOUT CONSULTATIONS AMONG POSSIBLE AID DONORS. AFTER CHECKING WITH MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, JUDITH HART, ASPIN REPLIED THAT BRITISH WOULD NOT WANT TO TAKE LEAD IN ANY SUCH DISCUSSIONS WHICH ROLE THEY FELT SHOULD BE PLAYED BY PORTUGUESE, BUT ALSO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF DUTCH PLAYING MAJOR ROLE, AS THEY SEEMED QUITE INTERESTED.

4. NICK HUIJZMAN, HEAD OF SOUTH AFRICA DEPARTMENT ODM, CONFIRMED UK'S LOW PROFILE POLICY THAT IT WILL BE WILLING TO STUDY POSSIBILITY OF AID TO MOZAMBIQUE IF ASKED. THIS IS THE SAME POSITION THAT ODM MINISTER HART HAS TAKEN ON AID TO GUINEA-BISSAU. HUIJZMAN EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT ODM SEES MOZAMBIQUE'S BOP PROBLEMS AS GOP'S RESPONSIBILITY. THEY FEEL GOP SHOULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY BUDGETARY SUPPORT JUST AS HMG TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BUDGETARY PROBLEMS FACED BY ITS FORMER COLONIES DURING THE INITIAL YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE. ODM OFFICIALS HAVE STRESSED THIS POINT REPEATEDLY DURING INFORMAL TALKS WITH GOP EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN LONDON.

5. HUIJZMAN FEELS THAT IF ASKED ODM COULD ONLY CONTEM-

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6511

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 16242

PLATE PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. THE MAGNITUDE OF MOZAMBIQUE'S BOP PROBLEM, WITH COMMERCIAL DEBT ESTIMATED AT OVER 200 MILLION POUNDS, EFFECTIVELY RULES OUT BILATERAL APPROACHES. ODM DOUBTS THAT FRG OR DUTCH BILATERAL AID WILL BE USED EFFICIENTLY WITHOUT THIS CENTRAL COORDINATION.

6. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON DUTCH AID, HE SAID MINISTER HART WAS TOLD BY DUTCH DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MINISTER PRONK THAT GON WAS ONLY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO TAKE PRESSURE OFF NEWLY ESTABLISHED GOP. HUIJZMAN ADDED THAT WHEN DUTCH AMBASSADOR IN DAR ES SALAAM INFORMED SAMORA MACHEL THAT GON WAS CONSIDERING PROVIDING AID THROUGH LISBON FOR MOZAMBIQUE, HE WAS TOLD UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT ALL POLICY DECISIONS WERE BEING MADE BY FRELIMO'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN DAR. OFFERS OF AID AND OTHER SUCH CONTACTS SHOULD, HE WAS TOLD, BE CHANNELED THROUGH THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND NOT LISBON OR LOURENCO MARQUES.

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7. FINALLY, HUIJZMAN SAID PRESS REPORTS ON POSSIBLE HART VISIT TO REVIEW AID PROSPECTS IN LISBON WITH GOP WERE PURELY SPECULATIVE. IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT SHE MAY SPEND PART OF EARLY JANUARY ON VACATION IN PORTUGAL WHERE SHE HAS MANY FRIENDS IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY. ANY DISCUSSION OF AID ARISING FROM SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE INCIDENTAL.

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